

THE OFFICE OF NETWORK SERVICES PARTNERS WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO ENABLE NETWORK SERVICES FOR A NATIONALLY ATTENDED VIDEOCONFERENCE

The Department of Parks and Recreation hosted the National Association of State Park Directors conference in September 2002, with videoconference links to four park sites. To prepare for this conference, Parks and Recreation contacted the DGS Telecommunications Division, Office of Network Services (ONS) to facilitate the telecommunications links under the **CALNET** contract.

The National Association of State Park Directors met at the Parks and Recreation Conference Facility in Monterey, California. From there, they connected by videoconference to the four park sites. All sites were bridged together by MCI WorldCom video conferencing, with local links provided by SBC Pacific Bell and Verizon.

Site #1, was at Ano Nuevo State Park outside San Francisco. This showed the Elephant Seal breeding area. A State Park ranger narrated and persons were able to ask questions via the Internet on "Seal Chat."



Site #2 , was Marshall Gold Discovery Park in Coloma. This showed how to pan for gold. The Directors in Monterey were able to interact with the miners in Coloma and actually pan for gold.

Site #3, was here in Sacramento at the Parks and Recreation Headquarters building. A "green screen" was used behind actors to show pictures and backgrounds. The actors gave a history on how women came about being able to vote.



Site #4, was located at Crystal Cove State Park in Laguna Beach where there was an underwater demonstration. The divers used a video camera along the underwater reef to show its inhabitants. The divers were able to communicate with the Directors in Monterey.



The conference was a great success, and future use of this videoconferencing system includes educating school children on California's natural resources and history. Children will also have the capability of talking with the divers at Crystal Cove during videoconferencing sessions.

This is an example of how the ONS partners with its customers to facilitate projects. The ONS is available five days a week from 8AM – 5PM to answer your questions and provide assistance, so don't hesitate to give us a call at (916) 657-9903, and ask for a Customer Account Manager.

Check this page regularly for other projects in which the ONS partners with both state and local government customers. We will archive each project description as we post new ones. Give us a call if you would like to showcase a project in which the CALNET network played an important part!